



TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE
CONTACT: Michelle Earl 276-669-9999 (office)
423-335-6693 (cell)
Michelle.Earl@VDOT.Virginia.Gov

Feb. 12, 2010
BR-1038

VDOT BRISTOL'S WEEKLY TRAFFIC ALERT: February 15 - 21, 2010

BRISTOL, Va. – In an effort to keep motorists informed, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) provides weekly information about highway construction and maintenance projects in southwestern Virginia. When traveling through highway work zones, use caution and be alert to changes in traffic patterns and slow-moving or stopped traffic.

Motorists face a maximum fine of \$500 for speeding in highway work zones. Law enforcement officers monitor highway work zones throughout the region.

To help to take the guesswork out of your travel plans, VDOT always encourages motorists to call 511 or visit www.511Virginia.org for real-time traffic information.

INTERSTATE PROJECTS

Interstate 81 – bridge painting project: In the coming weeks, be alert to a bridge painting project that will affect traffic underneath four interstate bridges in the Marion area. Crews will remove old paint and repaint the Interstate 81 bridges located above Route 690 at Atkins and above Route 16 (Exit 45), Matson Drive and Exit 44 in Marion. The work will occur one bridge at a time, beginning with the Route 690 bridge and then moving south.

Be alert to the possibility of lane closures during daylight hours while work is underway. When crews are removing paint from the bridges during daylight hours, the noise levels at each bridge will be high. Use caution in this area. (Completion: October 1, 2010)

*****Interstates 81 and 77 maintenance activities:** No lane closures this week due to maintenance activities.

PRIMARY HIGHWAYS AND HIGH TRAFFIC SECONDARY ROADS:

Buchanan County

Route 460 Grundy – Phase II: Motorists may experience delays this week due to demolition, excavation and blasting work as part of the Route 460 road widening project located between the newly constructed section of Route 460 in downtown Grundy to Route 615 in the Cow Town area. Pay close attention to flaggers directing traffic through the work zone. (Completion: mid-November 2011)

Buchanan County- Water Line, Sewer Line Installation: The following projects in areas of Buchanan County will restrict traffic to one lane during daylight hours:

- Water line installation work on Routes 602 and 601 in the Duty area of Buchanan and Dickenson counties (Completion: summer 2010)
- Sewer line installation work on Route 604 in the Poplar Creek area. (Completion: spring 2010)

Dickenson County

Sewer line project – various routes: Due to sewer line projects on Routes 72, 83 and 621 west of Clintwood in Dickenson County be alert to the possibility of daytime lane closures along these routes. (Completion: spring 2010)

Route 658 (Flat Spur Road): Motorists may experience delays on a section of Route 658 (Flat Spur Road) in Dickenson County due to a road widening project. The project extends 1.43 miles on Route 658 to the intersection of Route 800. Be alert to flaggers directing traffic during daylight hours. (Completion: May 2010)

Water line installation – various routes: Be alert to periodic lane closures on various secondary routes throughout Dickenson County due to the Big Caney III and IV and the Multi-Community water line installation projects. (Completion: summer 2010)

Grayson County

*****Route 805 (Spring Valley Road):** Be alert to the possibility of delays due to improvements to Route 805 (Spring Valley Road) in Grayson County. (Completion: October 31, 2010)

Route 58 bridge repairs: Due to bridge repairs, traffic is being controlled by signals on the Route 58 bridge over Peach Bottom Creek located just east of Independence in Grayson County. The bridge is restricted to one 14-foot-wide lane during repairs. Use caution in this area. (Completion: May 2010)

Route 748 (Laurel Creek Road): Be alert to the possibility of lane closures due to improvements along a section of Route 748 (Laurel Creek Road) in the Rugby area. (Completion: late spring 2010)

Russell County

Route 618: A section of Route 618 in the Rabbit Ridge section of Russell County has been closed to allow Paramount Coal Company Virginia LLC to perform surface mine operations in the area. The 0.4-mile section begins about one-mile east of Route 600 and extends eastward. When the mining operations are complete, Paramount Coal Company Virginia LLC will rebuild the closed section of Route 618, eliminating steep grades and sharp curves along the existing section of Route 618.

Smyth County

Route 695 (Slemp Creek Road) bridge: The Route 695 (Slemp Creek Road) bridge in the Sugar Grove community of Smyth County has been closed to traffic and will remain closed until repairs can be made in the coming months. (Completion: Spring 2010)

Route 622 (Nick's Creek Road): Due to a project to widen and replace a bridge on Route 622 (Nick's Creek Road) in Smyth County, a section of the route is closed to traffic. Motorists can detour around the project by using Kelly Hill Road, Pierce Road, Big Prater Road and Route 16. Motorists are advised to use caution in this area and pay close attention to detour signs. (Completion: June 2010)

Route 11 – bridge replacement: Traffic signals are controlling one-lane traffic on Route 11 at the west end of Chilhowie due to a bridge replacement project. Use caution in this area. (Completion: July 2010)

Wise County

Water and sewer line project – downtown Pound: Lane closures are possible on Business Route 23 through Pound due to a downtown revitalization project. Water and sewer line work, as well as repaving and sidewalk construction are underway in this area. (Completion: summer 2010)

Route 23 – cross-over project: North and southbound traffic on Route 23 at J.W. Adams Combined School in Wise County has been shifted to the northbound lanes due to construction of a cross-over at the school. One-lane traffic is separated by concrete barriers and there is a 14-foot width restriction through the work zone. The speed limit in the work zone is 45 miles per hour. Motorists should use caution in this area, especially during morning and afternoon traffic peaks at the school. (Completion: August 2010)

Wythe County

Route 100 bridge and Route 637 (Greenbriar Road): The Route 100 bridge over Little Reed Island Creek is now open to two-way traffic and the detour for Route 637 (Greenbriar Road) has been removed. There will be additional work on guardrail and roadway approaches once the weather improves. (Completion: May 2010)

Route 610 bridge: Due to replacement of the Route 610 bridge over Norfolk Southern Railroad in Wythe County, the bridge is closed to traffic. (Completion: May 2010) (END)